

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**COUNTRY Germany (Soviet zone)REPORT NO. TOPIC Volkspolizei Units in the Dessau Area

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EVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED

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REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In August 1950, the 9th VP Bereitschaft of Land Saxony-Anhalt, a signal communications unit, was stationed in Dessau-Kochstedt (U 52/E 06) and numbered about 1,200 police. It was organized into a Bereitschaft headquarters and three Kommandos. Each Kommando was composed of three Abteilungen.

2. The headquarters personnel of the 9th VP Bereitschaft included:

VP Oberrat Otto Gutezeit	Commanding officer, a former first lieutenant in the signal troops
VP Oberrat Christian Blechschmidt	PK-Leiter, a former teacher at the SED party school of Land Thuringia
VP Kommissar Walter Haupt	Chief of personnel section
VP Oberkommissar Vollmer, (fnu)	Liaison officer to the NVA, and security officer
VP Kommissar Rudolf, (fnu)	Interpreter
VP Oberkommissar Wolfgang Zimmer	Director of training
VP Oberkommissar Heinrich Zechow	Chief of the signal repair shop
VP Kommissar Helmut Seidel	Chief of planning section
VP Rat Roeder, (fnu)	Director of special training
VP Oberkommissar Fritz Kurt	Operations officer
VP Kommissar Erwin Klar	Deputy operations officer

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VP Rat Rudi Drese	SED party secretary
VP Oberkommissar Schatten, (fnu)	Propaganda officer
VP Kommissar Werner Rieke	FDJ secretary
VP Meister Juergen Sperber	Librarian
VP Wachtmeister Kurt Schmidt	Athletic officer
VP Oberkommissar Walter Peterlich	Administrative officer
VP Meister Astuba, (fnu)	Ordnance officer
VP Kommissar Rudi Winger	Clothing officer
VP Meister Erich Norkus	Mess officer
VP Kommissar Werner Hake	Finance officer
VP Hauptwachtmeister Kurt Meier	Motor sergeant
VP Kommissar Harrmann Hilsch	Billeting officer.

3. Personnel of the 1st Kommando included:

VP Rat Heinz Prokop	Commanding officer
VP Oberkommissar Pohl, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and 1st deputy commander
VP Oberkommissar Presch, (fnu)	Training officer and 2d deputy commander
VP Kommissar Pradella, (fnu)	Operations officer
VP Kommissar Foese, (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Meister Franz, (fnu)	First sergeant
VP Hauptwachtmeister Laskowski, (fnu)	Chief of orderly room
VP Kommissar Braun, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 1st Abteilung
VP Hauptwachtmeister Gross, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 1st Abteilung
VP Kommissar Lolke, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 2d Abteilung
VP Meister Peier, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 2d Abteilung
VP Kommissar Kretschmar, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 3d Abteilung
VP Kommissar Boehler, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 3d Abteilung.

4. Personnel of the 2d Kommando included:

VP Rat Werner Pfueller	Commanding officer
VP Oberkommissar Karasch, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and 1st deputy commander
VP Meister Kunze, (fnu)	Operations officer

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VP Meister Pieper, (fnu)	First sergeant
VP Oberkommissar Kleine, (fnu)	Training officer and 2d deputy commander
VP Kommissar Klein, (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Oberwachtmeister Roloff, (fnu)	Chief of orderly room
VP Kommissar Hohensee, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 1st Abteilung
VP Kommissar Holschumacher, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 1st Abteilung
VP Kommissar Amter, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 2d Abteilung
VP Kommissar Brettschneider, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 2d Abteilung
VP Meister Gebel, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 3d Abteilung and
VP Meister Steidel, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 3d Abteilung.

5. Personnel of the 3d Kommando included:

VP Rat Johannes Fischer	Commanding officer
VP Oberkommissar Neubert, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and 1st deputy commander
VP Kommissar Gerlach, (fnu)	Training officer and 2d deputy commander
VP Oberkommissar Rau, (fnu)	Operations officer
VP Kommissar Forkers, (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Kommissar Krutzek, (fnu)	Interior duty officer
VP Kommissar Dattler, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 1st Abteilung
VP Meister Nieder, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 1st Abteilung
VP Kommissar Graf, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 2d Abteilung
VP Oberwachtmeister Schulze, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 2d Abteilung
VP Meister Pfeiffer, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 3d Abteilung
VP Oberwachtmeister Kornmueller, (fnu)	PK-Leiter and deputy commander of 3d Abteilung.

6. The armament of the Bereitschaft included five model 42 machine guns, seven model 34 machine guns, 40 to 50 model 44 submachine guns, 30 model 38/40 submachine guns; 250 to 300 model 28-K carbines, 35 model 38 pistols, 20 model 08 pistols and an unknown number of training hand grenades.

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7. The signal equipment included an unknown number of model 33 field telephones, portable field switchboards, switchboards for connecting with regular telephone systems, portable switchboards for ten lines, one field testing set, one teletypewriter, various material for the construction of lines and telephone controls, and reels of heavy field wire.
8. The 9th VP Bereitschaft received signal training, including instruction and training on civilian communication lines, construction of a field wire net and field telephone operation service, and theoretical instruction on multiplex printing telegraph and start-stop teletype machine (Hell- und Springschreiber). The policemen also received arms training, to include theoretical instruction on medium mortars. They received individual, squad, and platoon training, training in the field in offensive and defensive combat, and sand table exercises. They were instructed on special engineer equipment and mines, the laying of mine fields and other obstacles, the construction of emergency bridges, and the use of explosives and detonation agents.
9. The Bereitschaft also received political indoctrination. It had an SED party group of about 100 members and a special party board. Each Kommando had a party section which was composed of a political chairman, a party organizer and a treasurer. About 70 percent of the Bereitschaft belonged to the FDJ group. There was an FDJ subsection with each Abteilung. *
10. In early September 1950 the VP officers' school in Kochstedt was organized into four companies. Its key officers included Chefinspekteur Walter Proytag school commandant and former general; von Fitzleben, (fnu), director of training, son of the German field marshal who was executed; and Inspekteur Zetler, (fnu), PK-Leiter.
11. Kommando and Bereitschaft commanders were trained in the 1st and 2d Co, company and platoon commanders in the 3d and 4th Co. **
- * [] Comment. The report confirms previous information [] on the organization of the 9th VP Bereitschaft (Telephone) and its key officers in the Flak Kaserno, Basseu-Kochstedt.
- ** [] Comment. The information agrees with numerous newspaper dispatches and a previous report.

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